

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, and 16-34 are all the claims pending in the application, claims 2, 7, and 9-15 having previously been canceled, claims 16-33 having been previously added, and claim 34 being added by the present amendment. Claims 1, 5, 8, 24, and 30 are the only independent claims.

Claims 21, 27, and 31, are objected to based on an informality. The forgoing amendments to these claims adopt the wording suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of these objections is believed proper and is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 16, 17, 20-24, and 27-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Saito et al. (U.S. patent 6,469,440). Claims 3, 4, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito. Claims 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Shimamura et al. (U.S. patent 6,808,773). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, and requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the following arguments.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Saito

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 16, 17, 20-24, and 27-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Saito.

Claim 1 recites “the black adhesive adheres to a plurality of structures and the transparent adhesive adheres to at least two of the plurality of structures.”

Applicant’s review of cited figure 1 of Saito reveals disclosure relating to light transmitting plate 1 having black paint 6 and transparent frame adhesive 4D. For the sake of argument, Applicant assumes that adhesive 4D discloses the claimed “transparent adhesive” and

black paint 6 discloses the claimed “black adhesive.” Even if this were correct, black paint 6 adheres to, at most, base plate 2B and frame adhesive 4D. (Saito, Fig. 1). Likewise, frame adhesive 4D adheres to, at most, film 5B, black paint 6, and base plate 2B. (Saito, Fig. 1).

Even if black paint 6 adheres to a “plurality of structures” (base plate 2B, frame adhesive 4D), frame adhesive 4D (transparent adhesive) at most adheres to only one of these structures; namely, base plate 2B. Since frame adhesive 4D only adheres to only one of the structures at issue (base plate 2B), Saito cannot therefore teach or suggest that a “transparent adhesive adheres to at least two of the plurality of structures,” as required by claim 1.

Applicant submits that none of the other references of record supply the stated deficiencies of Saito. In view of the foregoing, Saito fails to teach or suggest the identified feature of claim 1, and therefore this claim is believed to be patentable.

Independent claims 5, 8, 24, and 30 are patentably distinct for similar reasons, and dependent claims 6, 16, 17, 20-23, 27-29, and 31-33 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on the patentable independent claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)
as being unpatentable over Saito and Shimamura

Claims 3, 4, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito. Claims 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Shimamura et al. (U.S. patent 6,808,773).

Applicant has demonstrated above that Saito does not teach or suggest the “at least two” feature recited by claims 1, 5, and 24. Applicant further notes that none of the cited references supply any of the stated deficiencies of Saito. Therefore, dependent claims 3, 4, 18, 19, 25, and 26 are believed to be patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on their respective independent

claims. Similarly, newly added dependent claim 34 is believed to be patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on patentable independent claim 1.

CONCLUSION

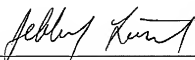
In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present Amendment places all claims of the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California, telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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